

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDA-05 AF-08

ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01

PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /128 W

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P R 271712Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2106

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6862

DISTO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD, US, UR

SUBJECT: CCD - US-SOVIET CW CONSULTATIONS

1. SUMMARY: FINAL SESSION OF US-SOVIET CW CONSULTATIONS
DEVOTED TO ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE SOVIET RESPONSE TO US
EXCHANGE VISIT PROPOSAL AND SUMMARY OF ISSUES ON WHICH
VIEWS CORRESPONDED. END SUMMARY

2. SOVIET AMBASSADOR LIKHATCHEV OPENED AUGUST 27 SESSION
WITH STATEMENT RESPONDING TO EARLIER US PRESENTATION
CONCERNING FEASIBILITY AND UTILITY OF TECHNICAL EXCHANGE
VISITS. HE SAID SOVIETS FAILED TO SEE USEFULNESS OF SUCH
VISITS, PARTICULARLY AS PROPOSAL SEEMED TO BE BASED ON
U.S. CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION. SOVIETS, HOWEVER,
HELD VIEW THAT VERIFICATION SHOULD BE BASED ON SYSTEM OF
NATIONAL CONTROL AND EXCHANGE VISITS SUGGESTED BY US
NOT NECESSARY IN SUCH CONTEXT. LIKHATCHEV SAID ANY STATE
WOULD HAVE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE BUT
THAT IF STATE ENCOUNTERED PROBLEMS OF TECHNICAL NATURE
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IN COURSE OF VERIFICATION, POSSIBILITY OF SCIENTIFIC AND

TECHNICAL EXCHANGES ON CONCRETE PROBLEMS WOULD EXIST. HE ADDED THAT US PROPOSAL ALSO RAISED PROBLEM OF PROTECTION OF COMMERCIAL AND STATE SECRETS WHICH WAS QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE FOR SOVIETS. LIKHATCHEV INQUIRED IF US INTENDED TO ELABORATE SYSTEM OF NATIONAL OR, RATHER INTERNATIONAL CONTROL IN COURSE OF SUCH EXCHANGES AND ASKED FOR US VIEWS AS TO HOW SUCH VISITS COULD BE CONDUCTED WITHOUT DAMAGE TO COMMERCIAL AND OTHER INTERESTS OF PRODUCER AND HOST PARTY. IN SHORT, HE SAID, SOVIETS CONSIDERED FEASIBILITY OF SUCH VISITS LIMITED AND THEIR UTILITY DOUBTFUL.

3. AMBASSADOR MARTIN RESPONDED THAT US BELIEVED SUCH VISITS COULD BE CONDUCTED WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO LARGER QUESTION OF AUSPICES UNDER WHICH VERIFICATION OF POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WOULD BE CONDUCTED. IT WOULD PROVIDE USEFUL INFORMATION ON EFFICACY OF TECHNICAL MEANS TO BE EMPLOYED AND HELP DIPLOMATS, WHO WOULD HAVE TO ELABORATE POSSIBLE TREATY, GET BETTER SENSE OF PROBLEM. INSOFAR AS PROTECTION OF SECRETS WAS CONCERNED HE SAID HE HAD CONFIDENCE IN ABILITY OF BOTH SIDES TO PREVENT SECRETS FROM BEING REVEALED.

4. MARTIN DELIVERED PREPARED STATEMENT (TEXT PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED WITH SOVIETS AND REPORTED SEPTEL) SUMMARIZING, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO OTHER ISSUES, THOSE POINTS UPON WHICH CORRESPONDENCE OF US AND SOVIET VIEWS HAD BECOME APPARENT DURING CONSULTATIONS.

5. LIKHATCHEV RESPONDED WITH STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGING US STATEMENT REFLECTED COMMON VIEWS. HE INQUIRED WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS SUFFICIENT COMMON GROUND ON QUESTION OF VERIFICATION "WHICH WE CAN NO MORE AVOID THAN WE CAN AVOID GRAVITY") TO PROVIDE STARTING POINT FOR FURTHER PROGRESS. SAID SOVIET POSITION WAS CLEARLY FORMULATED (SYSTEM OF NATIONAL CONTROL COMBINED WITH SOME INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURES,) AND THAT WHILE US POSITION DIFFERENT, IT WAS NOT AS PRECISELY FORMULATED. LIKHATCHEV CHARACTERIZED CONSULTATIONS AS USEFUL AND HELPFUL IN PREPARATION OF FURTHER STEPS IN ELABORATION OF JOINT CCD INITIATIVE. HE SAID SOVIETS WISHED TO EXPEDITE

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PROCESS IN VIEW OF IMPATIENCE OF MANY CCD MEMBERS, AND BEGIN FORMULATION OF TREATY, BUT APPRECIATED FACT THAT US NOT YET PREPARED TO DO SO.

7. IN REPOSE MARTIN SAID RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL TO USG IN REACHING POLICY DECISIONS. HE AGREED VERIFICATION CENTRAL PROBLEM AND REPORTS OF CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE EXAMINED TO DETERMINE WHERE THERE MIGHT BE POINTS

OF COMMONALITY BETWEEN OUR DIFFERING APPROACHES. HE SAID US GREATLY CONCERNED BY SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF UNDECLARED STOCKS, TO WHICH IT SO FAR UNABLE TO DEVELOP EVEN TENTATIVE SOLUTIONS. HE ALSO STATED THAT VERIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION OF DECLARED STOCKPILES AND OF DEACTIVATION OF FORMER CW FACILITIES WOULD REQUIRE SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROL WITH ELEMENT OF ON-SITE INSPECTION. MARTIN ACKNOWLEDGED SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SIDES ON VERIFICATION ISSUE BUT EXPRESSED HOPE RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS WOULD PROVE USEFUL IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESS ON BOTH SIDES.

8. MARTIN CONCLUDED WITH PERSONAL OBSERVATION THAT EXPERIENCE OF LAST TWO MONTHS WITH ENMOD TREATY HAD CAUSED HIM TO QUESTION WISDOM OF TABLING DRAFT TREATY, WHICH PUT CO-SPONSORS IN UNFORTUNATE BARGAINING POSITION OF ALWAYS GIVING GROUND AND GETTING NOTHING IN RETURN. HE SAID HE HAD NOT RESOLVED QUESTION, EVEN IN HIS OWN MIND, BUT WONDERED IF IT MIGHT NOT BE PREFERABLE TO CONSIDER AGREEING ON DETAILED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES, WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE JOINT INITIATIVE, BUT NEGOTIATING ACTUAL TEXT OF CONVENTION IN CCD.

9. DELEGATION WILL PREPARE SUMMARY ASSESSMENT AFTER RETURN TO WASHINGTON. CATTO

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